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Comments: The rock climbing in the American west is widely considered to be the best in the world. The rich and varied history of climbing in the American west goes back hundreds of years, but has bloomed in the last 70 years since the 1950's. This era contains multiple generations of climbing and notably includes the start of "Clean Climbing" which has led to the sustainable practice of modern climbing. This practice allows climbers to safely ascend, retreat, rescue, and rappel routes while leaving no impact behind. Modern climbing does require some fixed hardware for user safety and route repeatability but within wilderness areas this fixed hardware has remained minor and is in line with the wilderness character of these areas and the legal framework of the wilderness act. The proposed changes to how fixed hardware used for climbing in wilderness areas would introduce unnecessary regulation, increase the risk of climbing, and potentially limit or remove climbing in the American west. Fixed hardware and climbing in general does need some level of regulation, but past methods have been better suited than the proposed changes. Climbing and fixed hardware within wilderness areas should be regulated at a regional level and future regulation should largely be in line with past regulation.